

Program Description/Textbook or Print Instructional Material

Vendor	Pearson Education, Inc., PA Pearson Prentice Hall
Web URL	www.phschool.com
Title	Conexiones: Comunicación y cultura
Author	Zayas-Bazan et al.
Copyright Date	2005
ISBN	0131920243
Edition	3rd Edition
Course/Content Area	High School Spanish IV
Intended Grade or Level	9-12
Readability Level	None Available
List Price	\$59.96
Lowest Wholesale Price	\$44.97

Level of Accommodations Level Three

If Level Two or Level Three, please provide rationale for not meeting Level One Compliance

Rationale Pearson Prentice Hall is unable to provide files in Levels One due to the variety of page layout systems used to create the text. These systems are not compatible with specialized formats such as XML or HTML.

FEATURES**Disclaimer**

The features of each book or program were developed by the publisher and do not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, State Textbook Commission, or of the Kentucky Department of Education.

Content

CONEXIONES is an upper-level Spanish textbook that features high-interest topics, an effective sequenced review of selected grammatical points and vocabulary, and a thorough integration of language and culture. Chapter topics reflect issues of interest and concern to today's students. Each chapter synthesizes the development of language skills and cultural awareness through the active use of art, music, and literature from the Spanish-speaking world. CONEXIONES focuses on active, personalized, and real communication about actual experiences and issues.

Student Experiences

CONEXIONES connects students with the real world of contemporary life, issues, and culture in today's Spanish-speaking world. Each chapter is organized around a relevant theme that related to their lives. Activities bridge what students have learned in previous years of study and expand their vocabulary, grammar, and communication skills. Students experience a relevant and thoughtful approach to learning Spanish.

Assessment

The Testing Program provides a test for each chapter. Students are assess on all four

language skills (listening, speaking, reading, and writing) as well as the vocabulary and grammar of the chapter and the content of the literature selections, art, and songs.

Organization

CONEXIONES consists of a review section followed by twelve chapters (*lecciones*). Each of the *lecciones* is divided into three parts: *Primera parte*, *Segunda parte*, and *¡Así lo expresamos!* Each *parte* maintains the following consistent structure: *¡Así es la vida!* (initial reading introduction to the theme); *¡Así lo decimos!* (vocabulary); *Estructuras* (grammar); *Comparaciones* (cultural comparisons); *A escuchar* (listening), *A explorar* (connections on the Internet), *¡Así lo expresamos!*; *Ritmos* (song lyrics); *Imágenes* (art); *Páginas* (literature), and *Taller* (writing workshop).

Resource Materials:

Gratis Items to be provided and under what conditions -

Free upon request with a minimum purchase of 25 Conexiones Student Editions:

1 per teacher user: Annotated Instructor's Edition; Instructor's Resource Manual; Workbook/Lab Manual, Teacher; Instructor's Audio CD/ Music CD; Video Program (VHS); Testing Program BLMs; Workbook/Lab Manual, Student; and Audio Program (CDs).

Available Ancillary Materials

Research Data and Evidence of Effectiveness

Disclaimer: The research data and evidence of effectiveness was provided by the publisher and does not reflect the opinion of the State Review Team, State Textbook Commission, or the Kentucky Department of Education

Note: Please complete this section by indicating the research data and evidence of effectiveness, or give a web site where the information is located. If there is no research data and evidence of effectiveness, please indicate "not available".

Research Available

No

If yes, provide information below.

Disclaimer: Comments on the strengths and/or weaknesses of each book, material or program were written by members of the State Textbook/Instructional Materials Review Team and reflect their opinions. They do not reflect the opinions of the State Textbook Commission nor the Kentucky Department of Education. In addition, the State Textbook/ Instructional Materials Review Team completed each evaluation form during the week of July19-23, 2004. In order to maintain the integrity of the of the review team's comments, editing was limited to spelling and punctuation.

Title	Conexiones: Comunicacion y cultura		
Publisher	Pearson Education/Prentice Hall		
Item Evaluated	Text		
Content Level	Spanish IV/AP	Copyright Date	2005
ISBN	131920243131920243	Date of Evaluation	07/22/04

Recommended YES

Publisher's Explanation of Reviewer's Comments:

Technology Strengths

Text does not rely a great deal on CD-ROMs, etc., but rather on listening CDs, videos, and Internet activities outlined in text. These activities allow students to explore the target language and make technological resource management much more manageable.

Instruction & Assessment Strengths

Text does present contextual material in target language, sufficient grammar and vocabulary practice, and relevant themes that affect Spanish-speaking countries.

Organization & Structure Strengths

The book is logically organized with respect to grammar review and allowing grammar to build on itself.

Resource Materials Strengths

Resource materials used with this text are minimal, very appropriate, and very manageable for the teacher. Accents are appropriate, videos show authentic information, and there is an appropriate number of ancillary materials to use.

Technology Weaknesses

While text advertises many Internet activities available through the publisher's website, many of the links have not been updated and therefore many websites cannot be found. In addition, the book does not necessarily truly integrate technology, as it pr

Instruction & Assessment Weaknesses

The text does not evenly balance use of all skills and should not be marketed as an AP text. In no way is the material present in this text in line with AP College Board recommendations for AP Spanish exam preparation - best left for use with a Spanish I

Organization & Structure Weaknesses

The general structure of the book is random and difficult to follow. While the chapters are broken down into themes, the actual content seems stretched to fit each theme just because it contains contextual vocabulary. Additionally, the cultural focus se

Resource Materials Weaknesses

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

Technology Comments Techological integration opportunities mentioned in text to allow students to explore target culture(s) through target language. All activities available through the publisher's website, though all technological integration is Internet-based and referred

Equipment

Windows No Macintosh No CD ROM No Sound No
Equipment Other

Grade Level

Primary No Intermediate No Middle No High Yes

Audience

Individual	Yes	Small Group	No	Large Group	Yes
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Format

Stand Alone/Independent	No	Integrated	Yes	Supplemental	No
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Cost

Single Copy	59.96	School Version	
Network Version		Online	
Site License		Lab Pack	

Type of Software

Simulation	No	Tutorial	No	Critical Thinking	No
Management	No	Exploratory	Yes	Utility	No
Interdisciplinary	No	Creativity	Yes	Type of Software -	
Problem Solving	No	Drill and Practice	No	Other	

Management

0	Allows customizing for individual learning needs
0	Allows Students to exit and resume later
0	Keeps student's performance record, where needed
0	Allows control of various aspects of software (sound)
0	Allows printed reports

Presentation/Interface

0	Presents material in organized manner
0	Consistent, easy-to-use, on-screen instructions
0	Developmentally correct presentation/ format

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

0	Adapts to different learning styles/multiple intelligences
0	Accessible for special needs students
0	Runs smoothly, without long delays
0	Easy-to-view text and graphics
0	Easy-to-hear and understand sounds
0	Avoids unnecessary screens, sounds, and graphics
0	Provides immediate, appropriate feedback
0	Presentation/Interface Comments

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
Identifies a Sense of Purpose		
3	The text provides a sense of purpose in an indirect manner. Students understand that they will use grammar and the target language to explore various content areas and culture, though the approach to identify this purpose seems lost.	
Provides Guiding Questions and Instructional Objectives		
4	The text provides a sense of purpose in an indirect manner. Students understand that they will use grammar and the target language to explore various content areas and culture, though the approach to identify this purpose seems lost.	
Develops and Builds on Student Ideas		
4	The text allows students to strengthen their understanding of Spanish grammar, further supplement their vocabulary, and help them to critically think in the target language.	
Encourages student to become an independent learner (performer, creator, speaker)		
3	Some opportunities given for drawing on independent observations for use in target language, demonstrating ability to be independent learner.	Very little emphasis on speaking and presentation - bulk of text centered around grammar drills and use with culture, thereby preventing students from being all-around independent thinkers.
Assesses Student Progress – Commonwealth Accountability Testing System (CATS) “like” Assessment is provided. Variety of Assessments (diagnostic, formative, Summative, open response, multiple choice, individual, small group, oral demonstrations, presentations, portfolio prompts) is included, Performance assessment opportunities are also included.		

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
4	Assessment is appropriately varied and uses same skills needed for success on the CATS test.	
Enhances the Learning Environment		
4	Through the use of videos, CDs, Internet activities, and the text itself, various media are employed to help enhance the students' learning environment.	
Reading level appropriate for interest and ability level of intended student group; level remains consistent throughout		
4	Reading level is appropriate and varied for target level, particularly with respect to variation in forms, I.e. poetry vs. short story, song vs. essay, etc.	
Includes activities and opportunities for integration of technology		
3	Text provides opportunities for student to use publisher-suggested websites to further explore themes present in text.	Many of these activities are exploratory only and include no follow-up activities to guide students or to check students for understanding.
Reflects research-based practices (e.g. hands-on activities, technology, problem-solving situations) engaging students and promoting student thinking		
2	Text allows for some hands-on activities, suggesting most of these in the TE, and allows students to do some independent processing.	Most activities, including cultural ones, seem to focus much less on promoting student critical thinking and rather feeding students specifically what meaning they should derive from information given.
Is aligned to the Program of Studies and Core Content for Assessment		
0	Is aligned to Program of Studies for World Languages.	Should not be used as an AP Spanish text, as the text does not follow criteria outlined by the AP College Board.
Includes opportunities for writing (reviews / personal response / reflection)		
2		Opportunities to write full bodies of text, aside from summaries, limited.

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
Language skills (listening, speaking, reading, writing) balanced and integrated within each lesson.		

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
3	While there are listening and speaking exercises present in the text, the text concentrates primarily on writing and reading drills.	
Students are given opportunities to communicate in target language in contextual, meaningful, and authentic situations for interpersonal, interpretive, and presentational modes/purposes.		
3	There are presentations and communication ideas present in the annotated TE, but few opportunities exist in the student edition.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to express basic needs, basic courtesies, states of being, likes and dislikes, and agreements and disagreements. (1.1.B1)		
4	Students are given some opportunity to describe people and things and to discuss opinions on various topics.	Students are given some opportunity to describe people and discuss opinions on various topics.
Materials provide opportunities for students to respond to one-on-one interactions, simple questions and simple requests. (WL – 1.1.B2)		
4	Most of the comprehension exercises allow for this, though most of these exercises are writing-centered.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to incorporate appropriate gestures in conversations.		
2		As much as the book tends to concentrate on culture, there is little mention of gesture incorporation.
Materials provide opportunities for students to create descriptions within contexts. (WL – 1.1.B6)		
4	The book excels in allowing students the opportunity to describe various things using the context of given vocabulary and grammatical structures.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to exchange information with peers and others. (WL – 1.1.B7)		
3	Students are given some opportunity to do this within each chapter; however, most of these opportunities are suggested in the Teachers' Edition.	

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
Materials provide opportunities for students to use different ways to express the same idea WL – 1.1.03		
3	To an extent - the text provides contextual and supplementary vocabulary to students to aid in circumlocution.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to understand and interpret written and spoken language on a variety of topics.		
3	Entire text, with the exception of grammatical explanations, is in Spanish, so students have varied opportunities.	The emphasis of this text tends to be on reading comprehension than listening. However, the books seems centered primarily grammar drills and using grammar to discuss various passages.
Materials provide opportunities for students to respond appropriately to familiar directions, instructions and commands. (WL – 1.2.B1)		
4	Since all directions are in Spanish, students are given opportunity to respond appropriately.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to identify and use some aural, visual and contextual clues to derive meaning. (WL 1.2.B4)		
4	The reading and listening exercises that do exist allow students to use contextual clues to derive meaning.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to identify main ideas and key words in level appropriate speech and print material. (WL 1.2.B7)		
4	Comprehension questions preceding and following passages direct students to identifying main ideas.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to present prepared material (e.g., poems, dialogues, songs) to audiences. (WL – 1.2.B3)		
3	Opportunities do exist, particularly as the book offers many pieces of prepared material, but much of this incorporation is suggested only in the TE>	
Materials provide opportunities for students to summarize main ideas of selected authentic and/or contextualized materials (e.g., stories, TV commercials) (WL – 1.3.B7)		
4	Students are continuously asked to do so, and much of the material in the text is varied and authentic in the described way.	
Materials provide opportunities for students to narrate events using some temporal expressions (e.g., tell what they are going to do for their birthday).		

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

<i>Rating</i>	<i>Strength</i>	<i>Weakness</i>
4	Since the book focuses a great deal on the practical application of grammar, students are encouraged to use grammar to narrate various events in this way.	
Textbook/instructional material is organized according to the natural acquisition of language through function.		
3	3	3
Emphasis is placed on lifelong learning by suggesting uses of the target language for personal enjoyment and enrichment.		
3		While an underlying current of the text, the text does little to t elements of the text with the promotion of this idea.
Students are given opportunities to gain knowledge and understanding of other cultures, as well as their own.		
3	Pieces of information are authentic and relate to the topics of each chapter.	The cultural examples used seem arbitrary and fail to give str picture of the various individual Spanish-speaking cultures.
Cultural information is authentic and current.		
4	Cultural information is extremely current and passages and artwork are very authentic.	
Cultural information reflects the diversity within the cultures (e.g. race, economics, political, social).		
4	A strength of the text, the text focuses on various aspects of diversity with each chapter of study.	
Cultural information is presented in the target language whenever possible.		
4	All cultural information, particularly literary passages, is in Spanish.	
Material integrates Arts and Humanities when possible.		
4	Strong suit of text - text incorporates music, art, etc., and has students understand and explore these through the target language.	
Material provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of the relationships between the products and perspectives of the culture by students opportunities to:		

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

Rating		Strength	Weakness
Yes	<i>Identify common words, phrases and idioms</i>	Yes	<i>Identify social, geographic, political factors that impact cultural practice</i>
Yes	<i>Identify commonly held generalizations about target culture</i>	Yes	<i>Identify differences and similarities among same-language cultures</i>
Yes	<i>Identify products, expressive forms, contributions, objects, images, and symbols of target culture</i>		
4		The text discusses perspectives and products of many cultures at one time, allowing students to focus on similarities and differences.	
Cultural information reflects the influence of the target culture in the United States and around the world.			
4		This text actually concentrates on influence everywhere, bringing in passages and art that show global influence.	
Content reinforces knowledge of other disciplines through the target language.			
4	4	4	4
Linguistic connections are made among languages.			
4		Text opens discussing the global connections among Spanish and other languages, concentrating a great deal on influence.	
Structural patterns are identified in both the target language and the student's own language.			
4		All Spanish grammatical structures employ an English comparison to allow students to see how target language functions.	
Historical connections are made among languages.			
1			Text does nothing to discuss the history of the Spanish language in the world.
Materials provide connections with target culture through technology media, and authentic resources.			
4		Great examples given.	

Rating Scale: 0-Not applicable; 1-None of the time; 2 Minimally; 3-Some of the time; 4-Most of the time

Description of Gratis Items**KY-2C****All blank entries due to lack of information provided by the publisher.**

Company	Pearson Education, Inc., PA Pearson Prentice Hall
Title of Textbook or Program Bid	Conexiones: Comunicación y cultura
Prepared By	Hope Heredia, State Adoption Administrator
Date	4-Jun-04
ISBN (Item 1)	0131920251
Copyright Date	2005
Title of Item	Annotated Instructor's Edition
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Annotated Instructor's Edition includes the student text with on-page teaching tips. Softcover.
Current Catalogue Price	\$41.47
ISBN (Item 2)	0130934909
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Instructor's Resource Manual
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Instructor's Resource Manual provides suggestions for lesson plans, assignment of supplements, and guidance on integrating components.
Current Catalogue Price	\$18.97
ISBN (Item 3)	0130966622
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Workbook/Lab Manual, Teacher
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Answer Key for Student Workbook/Lab Manual

Current Catalogue Price	\$4.47
ISBN (Item 4)	0130934992
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Instructor's Audio (Music) CD
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Audio CD containing the music selections from each chapter.
Current Catalogue Price	No charge
ISBN (Item 5)	0130935115
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Video Program (VHS)
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Video Program presents 2-3 authentic clips per chapter from Spain and Latin America that expand the chapter themes.
Current Catalogue Price	\$28.97
ISBN (Item 6)	013093500X
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Testing Program BLMs
If packet, list the contents	
Description of Items including Packet Contents	Testing Program Blackline Masters with Answer Key contain two tests per chapter, plus midterm and final exam.
Current Catalogue Price	No charge
ISBN (Item 7)	0130935026
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Workbook/Lab Manual, Student
If packet, list the contents	

Description of Items including Packet Contents	Grammar review, vocabulary and grammar practice, reading and writing, and cross-curricular cultural activities, plus audio activities.
Current Catalogue Price	\$12.47
ISBN (Item 8)	0130935077
Copyright Date	2002
Title of Item	Audio Program (CDs)
If packet, list the contents	7 Audio CDs
Description of Items including Packet Contents	The Audio Program consists of 7 CDs. These include audio to accompany the Lab Manual, the student CD containing recordings of the in-text A escuchar activities, and a CD containing recordings of the songs included in the Ritmos section of each chapter.
Current Catalogue Price	\$41.47